IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-3, 15-17 and 23-26 as follows. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended). A medical imaging system, comprising:

a system clock for generating a synchronization signal;

[[an]] a medical imaging sub-system that procures a plurality of time domain images of internal structure within a patient during a medical diagnostic procedure being performed on the patient and digitally converts the time domain images to digitized time domain image data; and

a sound recording sub-system that records, digitizes and time-stamps at least one channel of sound related to the time domain images in accordance with the synchronization signal, the sound recording sub-system indexing the at least one channel of sound to at least three events ~~in the plurality of time domain images in order to realize a set of~~ related to the medical diagnostic procedure or to operation of the imaging sub-system to split the at least one channel of sound, based on the events, into a plurality of digitized time-stamped audio data files which

are synchronized with the time-stamped, digitized time domain image data.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) The medical imaging system as set forth in claim 1, further comprising[[:]] a memory for digitally storing the indexed, time-stamped audio data files.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) The medical imaging system as set forth in claim 2, further comprising a playback sub-system that accesses and displays reconstructed images from the digitized time domain image data and synchronizes the playing of the time-stamped audio data files, based on the events.

Claim 4. (Original) The medical imaging system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the imaging sub-system comprises an ultrasound imaging system.

Claim 5. (Original) The medical imaging system as set forth in claim 4, wherein the at least one channel of sound is digitized at 22 to 44.1 KHz and encoded in a wave compatible format.

Claim 6. (Original) The medical imaging system as set forth in claim 4, wherein the at least one channel of sound

comprises a Doppler audio signal.

Claim 7. (Original) The medical imaging system as set forth in claim 4, wherein the at least one channel of sound comprises ECG sounds.

Claim 8. (Original) The medical imaging system as set forth in claim 4, wherein the at least one channel of sound comprises heart sounds.

Claim 9. (Original) The medical imaging system as set forth in claim 4, wherein the at least one channel of sound comprises respiration sounds.

Claim 10. (Original) The medical imaging system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the at least one channel of sound includes dictation audio and wherein the medical imaging system further comprises:

a voice recognition subsystem that translates the dictation audio into typed text, and wherein said typed text is time-stamped for indexing and synchronization.

Claim 11. (Original) The medical imaging system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the sound recording sub-system indexes

the at least one channel of sound with clinical information related to the patient.

Claim 12. (Original) The medical imaging system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the sound recording sub-system indexes the at least one channel of sound with a plurality of pieces of clinical information related to the patient.

Claim 13. (Original) The medical imaging system as set forth in claim 3, wherein the sound recording sub-system indexes the at least one channel of sound with a plurality of pieces of clinical information related to the patient and wherein the playback sub-system enables the access and playback of multiple pieces of audio information from the at least one channel of sound on a display showing a piece of clinical information related to the patient.

Claim 14. (Original) The medical imaging system as set forth in claim 1, wherein an event includes: start of exam; change of imaging mode; change of probe; user actuation of a control device; and end of exam.

Claim 15. (Currently Amended) A method for obtaining imaging and sound information during a medical diagnostic

procedure, the method comprising:

performing the medical diagnostic procedure on a patient;

procuring a plurality of time domain images of [[a]] internal structure within the patient during the medical diagnostic procedure;

digitizing the time-domain images, and time-stamping the digitized time domain images with a system synchronization signal;

receiving at least one channel of sound related to the time domain images;

digitizing and time-stamping the least one channel of sound with the system synchronization signal ~~to generate at least one digital audio clip; encoding the at least one channel of sound into a computer readable file~~; and

indexing the at least one ~~audio clip~~ channel of sound to at least three events ~~in~~ related to the medical diagnostic procedure or to the procurement of the plurality of time domain images ~~based on the time-stamping~~ to split the at least one channel of sound, based on the events, into a plurality of digitized time-stamped audio data files which are synchronized with the digitized time-stamped time domain images.

Claim 16. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

displaying the plurality of digitized time domain images; and

playing the ~~at least~~ audio ~~clip~~ data files based on the events synchronized with the display of the plurality of time domain images.

Claim 17. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein [[:]] the step of procuring a plurality of time domain images of a patient comprises procuring a plurality of ultrasound images.

Claim 18. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein the step of digitizing and time-stamping comprises digitizing the at least one channel of sound at 22 to 44.1 KHz, and wherein the computer readable file is wave compatible.

Claim 19. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein the at least one channel of sound comprises a Doppler audio signal.

Claim 20. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein the at least one channel of sound comprises ECG sounds.

Claim 21. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein the at least one channel of sound comprises heart sounds.

Claim 22. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein the at least one channel of sound comprises respiration sounds.

Claim 23. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein the at least one channel of sound includes dictation audio and wherein the method further comprises the step of:

translating the dictation audio into a computer readable file having character data which is time-stamped in accordance with the system synchronization signal.

Claim 24. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 16, further comprising the step of indexing the ~~at least one~~ audio ~~clip~~ data files with clinical information related to the patient based on time-stamping in accordance with the system synchronization signal..

Claim 25. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 16, further comprising the step of indexing the ~~at least~~

~~one~~ audio ~~clip~~ data files with a plurality of pieces of clinical information related to the patient based on time-stamping in accordance with the system synchronization signal.

Claim 26. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 16, further comprising the steps of:

indexing the ~~at least one~~ audio ~~clip~~ data files with a plurality of pieces of clinical information related to the patient based on time-stamping in accordance with the system synchronization signal;

displaying a piece of clinical information related to the patient; and

enabling the access and playback of the ~~at least one~~ audio ~~clip~~ data files indexed to the piece of clinical information being displayed upon request by a user.